

A4  
cont.

group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 11 and SEQ ID NO:13.

64. The method of claim 59, wherein said nucleic acid molecule encodes an MEKK protein selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 12 and SEQ ID NO:14.

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#### REMARKS

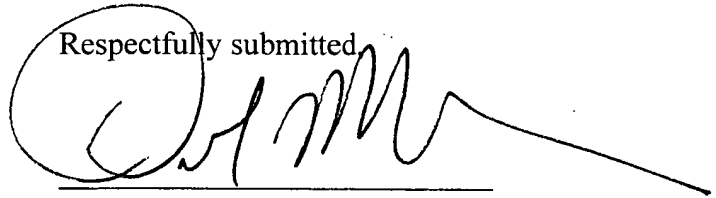
Claims 1-40 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1-39 have been canceled without prejudice. Claim 40 has been amended. New claims 41-64 have been added. Accordingly, claims 40-64 will be pending upon entry of the instant claim amendments.

Support for the claim amendments and new claims can be found in the specification of the instant application, as originally-filed. No new matter has been added. Amendment and/or cancellation of the claims was done to expedite prosecution of the instant application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the claims as originally filed in this or a separate application(s). Applicant respectfully requests entry of the above specification and claim amendments and claim additions.

SUMMARY

If a telephone conversation with Applicant's Attorney would expedite the prosecution of the above-identified application, the examiner is urged to call Applicant's Attorney at (617) 227-7400.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Debra J. Milasincic', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Debra J. Milasincic  
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Dated: **January 22, 2001**